

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for registering a mobile communication device to a service
2 comprising:
3 receiving device identifier for the mobile communication device via a first
4 communication network;
5 receiving, via the first network, a request for a first service to be provided to
6 the mobile communication device;
7 accessing a device capabilities database using the received device identifier;
8 determining whether the mobile communication device is capable of
9 receiving the requested service; and
10 when the mobile communication device is determined to be capable of
11 receiving the requested service, setting up the requested service for the mobile
12 communication device.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein when it is determined that the
2 communication device is not capable of receiving the requested service, proposing
3 an alternative service to the party that requested service wherein the alternative
4 service is compatible with the mobile communication device.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the requested service comprises a billing plan
2 for communications using the mobile communication device.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the device capabilities database stores
2 information about whether the mobile communication device is a multi-network
3 phone and the mobile communication device is determined to be capable of
4 receiving the service when the device capabilities database indicates that the mobile
5 communications device is a multi-network phone.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the requested service comprises a billing plan

2 for communications using the mobile communication device.

1 6. A method for registering a mobile communications device to a service,
2 comprising:

3 receiving a device attribute for the mobile communication device via a first
4 communication network;

5 receiving, via the first network, a request for a first service to be provided to
6 the mobile communication device;

7 accessing an attribute database using the received device attribute;

8 determining whether the mobile communication device is permitted to
9 receive the requested service; and

10 when the mobile communication device is determined to be permitted to
11 receive the requested service, setting up the requested service for the mobile
12 communication device.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein,

2 said device attribute comprises an electronic serial number (ESN) associated
3 with the device, said attribute database including an indication of whether a device
4 having a particular ESN is a multi-network phone; and

5 the mobile communication device is permitted access to the requested service
6 if there is an indication in the attribute database that the device is a multi-network
7 phone.

1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein,

2 said device attribute includes a home location identifier to be associated with
3 the mobile communication device;

4 said attribute database including an indication of which home location
5 identifiers correspond to geographic areas in which the service is receivable; and

6 the mobile communication device is permitted access to the requested service
7 if there is an indication in the attribute database that the home location of the mobile

8 communication device corresponds to a geographic area in which the service is
9 receivable.

1 9. A method for provisioning a special billing service to a mobile
2 communication subscriber whereby the subscriber receives a special billing rate for
3 all calls irrespective of the location of a mobile communication device at the time of
4 call initiation, the method comprising:
5 maintaining a device identifier database in which an identifier for a given
6 mobile communication device has associated therewith a plurality of device
7 capabilities;
8 maintaining an eligibility area database which includes an indication of
9 whether a given location is eligible for a particular billing plan;
10 receiving an attempt to register for the special billing rate, the request
11 including a device identifier;
12 checking the device identifier database to determine whether the mobile
13 communication device has the capability to receive the service for the special billing
14 rate;
15 receiving a home location identifier associated with the subscriber requesting
16 the special billing rate;
17 checking the eligibility area database to determine whether the mobile
18 communication subscriber has a home location eligible for the special billing rate;
19 and
20 registering the mobile communication device to the special billing rate when
21 the mobile communication device has the capability to receive the service and the
22 mobile communication subscriber has a home location eligible for the special billing
23 rate.

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1 10. A method for ascertaining whether to register a mobile communication
2 device to a given service, the method comprising:
3 applying a device identifier to an equipment capabilities filter;

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- 4 applying a home location identifier to a geographic eligibility filter; and
- 5 registering the mobile communication device to the given service if the
- 6 device identifier and home location identifier pass through the equipment
- 7 capabilities filter and geographic eligibility filter, respectively.

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